

Message Text

PAGE 01 NAIROB 03132 171529Z

51

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-03 SP-02 INR-07 IGA-01

/047 W

----- 056746

P R 171411Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2389

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO DOD/ISA

DOD/DSAA

CSAF

USCINCEUR VAINGEN GER

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 3132

DOD/ISA FOR G. BADER

DOD/DSAA FOR LTGEN FISH

ADDIS ABABA FOR COLONEL SIGLER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, KE, US

SUBJECT: US-KENYAN SECURITY ASSISTANCE DISCUSSIONS

REF: (A) STATE 70525 (NOTAL) (B) NAIROBI 2807 (NOTAL)

1. GENERAL. AMBASSADOR, STATE/DOD TEAM, AND EMBASSY OFFICERS PARTICIPATED IN SEVERAL MEETINGS WITH KENYAN MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL APRIL 15-16 TO DISCUSS SUBJECTS RELATED TO U.S. SECURITY ASSISTANCE PER REF A. WHILE KENYANS WERE DISAPPOINTED OVER SMALL MAGNITUDE ASSISTANCE USG LIKELY TO BE ABLE TO OFFER AT THIS TIME, DISCUSSIONS NEVERTHELESS ENDED ON CORDIAL NOTE AND SERVED SEVERAL USEFUL PURPOSES: (1) KENYAN OFFICIALS WERE THOROUGHLY BRIEFED ON COMPLEXITY AND CONSTRAINTS OF U.S. SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, (2) KENYA DEFENSE PLANNING
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NAIROB 03132 171529Z

CLEARLY BENEFITED DURING DISCUSSIONS FROM EXPERTISE OF MEMBERS OF U.S. TEAM, AND (3) TEAM VISIT HELPED SET STAGE FOR EFFECTIVE, FUTURE BILATERAL U.S.-KENYAN RELATIONSHIP IN MILITARY FIELD. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS DEFENCE MINISTER PERMANENT SECRETARY

KIEREINI AGAIN REITERATED KENYA'S NEED FOR LARGE-SCALE CONCESSIONARY FINANCING FOR ITS PLANNED ARMS ACQUISITIONS.

2. TRAINING. KENYANS WERE PLEASED TO LEARN OF DOD CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR VIP TOUR OF U.S. MILITARY TRAINING FACILITIES BY THREE SENIOR KENYAN OFFICERS. NAMES OF PROPOSED PARTICIPANTS WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO EMBASSY ASAP. KENYANS ALSO EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN UTILIZING TRAINING/OBSERVATION FACILITIES WHICH CINC- EUR CAN MAKE AVAILABLE ONCE SPECIFIC KENYAN HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS ARE FIRMED UP.

3. AIRCRAFT. GREATEST CONTROVERSY DURING DISCUSSIONS REVOLVED AROUND KENYAN AIRCRAFT REQUIREMENTS. U.S. TEAM'S F-5A PROPOSAL GENERATED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST, BUT ENCOUNTERED MIXED RECEPTION. AIR FORCE COMMANDER GICHURU WAS OPPOSED AND HELD OUT FIRMLY FOR OPTIMUM AIR FORCE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM OF ONE SQUADRON OF NEW A-4'S PLUS ONE SQUADRON OF NEW F-5E'S. GICHURU SAID REFURBISHED F-5A'S NOT APPROPRIATE TO KENYA'S REQUIREMENTS BECAUSE (1) AIRCRAFT NO LONGER IN PRODUCTION AND THUS SPARE PARTS PROBLEM LIKELY, (2) IT WOULD TAKE AT LEAST TWO YEARS BEFORE KENYAN PERSONNEL COULD BE TRAINED TO FLY AND SERVICE F-5A'S (THEREBY NEGATING VALUE OF EARLY DELIVERY DATE), AND (3) F-5A UNSUITABLE FOR KENYA'S PRIORITY DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS OF CLOSE GROUND SUPPORT FOR TROOPS. TEAM REBUTTED WITH STATEMENT THAT TRAINING COULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN SIX MONTHS' TIME, BUT MORE IMPORTANT, THAT A-4'S AIR TO GROUND CAPABILITY IS USELESS WITHOUT AIR SUPERIORITY, AND NO MATCH FOR MIG-21. PERMANENT SECRETARY KIEREINI ALSO QUESTIONED WHETHER "HALFWAY MEASURE" OF SQUADRON OF REFURBISHED F-5A'S WOULD INDEED PROVE TO BE A DETERRENT TO HOSTILE, WELL-EQUIPPED NEIGHBORS. TOWARDS END OF TEAM VISIT, HOWEVER, KIEREINI EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS GIVE F-5A PROPOSAL SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. TEAM INFORMED HIM THAT IRANIAN F-5A'S COULD BE HELD FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS WHILE KENYANS CONSIDERING PROPOSAL.

4. GROUND FORCES EQUIPMENT. TEAM MEMBERS HAD PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH KENYAN ARMY OFFICERS RE CHARACTERISTICS OF U.S. CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NAIROB 03132 171529Z

MADE EQUIPMENT WHICH WOULD MEET REQUIREMENTS OF VARIOUS ITEMS ON KENYAN SHOPPING LIST. KENYANS SHOWED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN SEVERAL U.S.-MADE WEAPONS SYSTEMS AND AGREED TO ADVISE US WHEN CONCLUSIONS HAVE BEEN REACHED. THEY WERE ALSO VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN POSSIBILITY OF VISITS TO SEE EQUIPMENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN GERMANY OR U.S.

5. RECOMMENDATION. I AM MOST APPRECIATIVE OF TIMELY, EFFECTIVE VISIT OF THIS ABLE, WELL-INFORMED STATE/DOD TEAM AND STRONGLY URGE THAT STATE AND DOD FOLLOW UP BY PRESSING FOR FINAL WHITE HOUSE ACTION WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS ON PENDING PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATIONS AUTHORIZING FMS CREDIT AND MAP TRAINING FOR KENYA. THIS WOULD FACILITATE TIMELY AND EFFICIENT PROCESSING OF KENYAN

REQUESTS FOR TRAINING AND MATERIEL ASSISTANCE.

MARSHALL

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NAIROB03131
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750135-0522
From:
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197504104/baaaatng.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <28 JAN 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: OEXC, KE, (WALLACE, JOHN)
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006